

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, lines 14-21 with the following paragraph:

Turning now to FIG. 1, a cross-sectional view of a fusing-station member is illustrated in the form of a fuser roller embodiment of the invention, identified by the numeral 10. Fuser roller 10 is an elastically deformable roller preferably for use with a relatively soft pressure roller. Fuser roller 10 includes a substrate in the form of a core member 16 and a resilient layer 14 formed on the core member. Optionally, fuser roller 10 further can include a protective layer or gloss control layer 12 coated on the resilient layer. As described in detail below, an important feature of the fuser roller 10 is the presence of flexible hollow filler particles 18 incorporated in resilient layer 14.

Please replace the paragraph at page 15, lines 5-11 with the following paragraph:

Resilient layer (RL) 14 is a highly crosslinked fluoropolymer made by a curing of an uncured formulation which includes a fluoro-thermoplastic polymer. RL 14 preferably includes three types of ~~hollow~~ filler particles ~~18~~, namely, flexible hollow filler particles, strength-enhancing solid particles, and thermal-conductivity-enhancing solid particles. RL 14 is an elastically deformable layer; hereinafter

"elastically deformable" is defined as pertaining to a Shore A durometer less than about 80.

Please replace the paragraph at page 20, line 27 through page 21, line 3 with the following paragraph:

Turning now to FIG. 2, a cross-sectional view of a fusing-station member is illustrated in the form of a pressure roller embodiment of the invention, identified by the numeral 20. Pressure roller 20 is preferably for use with a relatively soft, compliant, fuser roller. The pressure roller 20 includes a substrate in the form of a core member 26 and a resilient layer 24 formed on the core member. Optionally, pressure roller 20 further can include a protective layer or gloss control layer 22 coated on the resilient layer. In pressure roller 20 are flexible hollow filler particles 28 that are incorporated in resilient layer 24. The core member 26 is similar to core member 16 of fuser roller 10.

Please replace the paragraph at page 23, lines 15-23 with the following paragraph:

A fusing station including the above-described relatively hard pressure roller embodiment 20 and a relatively soft compliant fuser roller advantageously provides a robust fusing mechanism. In particular, a cured fluoro-thermoplastic resilient layer 24 incorporating hollow microballoons is very tough and durable, thereby providing a long-lasting roller.

Resilient layer 24 is resistant to gouging or scratching and also resistant to high-pressure damage from the edges of receiver members passing through the fusing station. In addition to these advantages, pressure roller 20 ~~has~~ can have a very simple construction, i.e., a single layer formed on the core member 26.

Please replace the paragraph at page 26, lines 8-19 with the following paragraph:

A third way of curing a prototype roller, indicated by arrow "c", is via electron beam process (e-beam curing). A precursor roller 140'' (formed in extrusion apparatus 150 and including core member 100 and an uncured layer 125''') is cured by exposure to a high power electron beam in well known fashion. Thus the e-beam curing can be carried out by rotating the precursor roller 140'' around its longitudinal axis so that the surface moves past either a rastered or a fixed source of electrons. No curing catalyst nor curing agent is used for the e-beam curing, which is advantageous. However, owing to the limited penetration of electron beams, e-beam curing is preferred for making relatively thin resilient layers, preferably thinner than about 0.02 inch. The microsphere particles incorporated into uncured layer ~~125''~~ 125''' are preferably in the form of expanded microballoons.

Please replace the paragraph at page 27, lines 3-10 with the following paragraph:

~~Alternatively~~ As indicated, alternatively an optional, thin, overcoat can be applied to the surface, e.g., for providing a protective layer or a gloss control layer (optional protective layer or gloss control layer ~~not~~ is shown in Figs. 1 and 2). Thus a thin fluoropolymer coating made from a fluoro-thermoplastic formulation can be coated directly on the surface, such as for example by using the materials and methods disclosed in the Chen, et al., patents (commonly assigned U.S. Patent Nos. 6,355,352 B1 and 6,361,829 B1). Such a coating preferably has a thickness in a range of approximately between 0.001 inch - 0.004 inch.